IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the following Claims as indicated.

1. (Currently amended) An error correction method for use with a noisy . communication channel, said method comprising the steps of:

dividing a data stream into symbols;

sampling the divided data stream ~~in~~ and placing samples into threads, wherein samples are taken at fixed time intervals;

inserting a correction symbol into the data stream to mix the correction symbol with data symbols, by inserting the correction symbol next to data symbols that have a fixed time separation;

transmitting the data stream;

receiving the transmitted data stream;

performing error detection and correction computations on the data and error correction symbols; and

outputting an error corrected data stream.

2. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~bursty~~ noisy communication channel comprises a satellite communication link.

3. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~bursty~~ noisy communication channel comprises a scratched compact disk.

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of bits.

5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of bytes.

6. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of words.

7. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein samples are taken at fixed time intervals that are longer than the time ~~interval of the bursts of data~~ intervals of error bursts caused by the noisy channel.

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of performing error detection and correction comprises performing error correction with a cyclic redundancy check ~~error correction~~.

9. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of inserting a correction symbol into the data stream comprises the step of inserting the same correction symbol ~~is~~ in more than one thread.

10. (Currently amended) An error correction method for use with a noisy communication channel, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving an incoming data stream;

copying each data symbol that is to be transmitted onto a register;

5 placing each data symbol onto a transmit output buffer in a predetermined position, wherein positions between ~~each~~ the data ~~symbol~~ symbols are filled with error correcting symbols calculated after a register gets filled;

transmitting a symbol transmission stream from the transmit output buffer;

receiving the transmitted transmission stream;

10 placing data and error correction symbols from the symbol transmission stream on predetermined registers;

performing error detection and correction computations on the data and error correction symbols;

placing the corrected data symbols on a receive output buffer in their correct positions;

15 and

outputting an error corrected data stream from the receive output buffer.

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the ~~bursty~~ noisy communication channel comprises a satellite communication link.

12. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the ~~bursty~~ noisy communication channel comprises a scratched compact disk.

13. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of bits.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of bytes.

15. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the ~~incoming data stream comprises~~ symbols are in the form of words.

16. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein samples are taken at fixed time intervals that are longer than the time ~~interval of the bursts of data~~ intervals of error bursts caused by the noisy channel.

17. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of performing error detection and correction comprises performing <u>error correction with a</u> cyclic redundancy check <s>error correction</s>.

18. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 10 wherein the step of inserting a correction symbol into the data stream comprises the step of inserting the same correction symbol <s>is</s> in more than one thread.